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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/058,838	01/28/2002	Narendra S. Khandekar	42390P13589	3655
8791	7590	03/24/2004	EXAMINER	
BLAKELY SOKOLOFF TAYLOR & ZAFMAN 12400 WILSHIRE BOULEVARD, SEVENTH FLOOR LOS ANGELES, CA 90025			PEIKARI, BEHZAD	
		ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER
		2186		5
DATE MAILED: 03/24/2004				

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/058,838	KHANDEKAR ET AL.
	Examiner	Art Unit
	B. James Peikari	2186

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 28 January 2002.
 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ . |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>4</u> . | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ . |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The abstract of the disclosure is objected to because many of the phrases used are not self-explanatory. Further explanation is required.

For example, "flag transitions", "rank select signal" and "data trigger scheme" have not been adequately explained. Also, "heavily loaded configurations" is an unexplained phrase.

Correction is required. See MPEP § 608.01(b).

Claim Objections

2. Claims 1-26 are objected to because of the presence of numerous informalities.

The following are some examples taken from only the first chain of claims:

- (a) In claim 1, line 2, "coupled" should replace "to couple".
- (b) In claim 1, line 6, "the" should be inserted between "on" and "timing".
- (c) In claim 1, line 8, "assertion of" should be inserted between "to" and "the".
- (d) Claim 4 should be rewritten to recite "the flag signal indicates the timing of the data transfer by positive and negative transitions of the flag signal".
- (e) In claim 5, line 2, "dynamic random access memory (DRAM)" should replace "dynamic-random-access-memory, DRAM".

Similar errors exist throughout the remaining claims.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

3. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

4. Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The following are some examples taken from only the first claim chain:

- (a) In claim 1, line 6 mentions “coupled” but fails to explain coupled to what. Explanation is required to permit understanding of the connectivity and function of the invention.
- (b) In claim 1, lines 6-7 are confusing – shouldn’t the logic unit generate a command occurrence signal based on the timing of the command signal, instead of the timing of the chip select signals which are generated at an undisclosed time (after?) in response to the command signal?
- (c) In claim 1, line 7, the antecedent basis of *plural* chip select signals is unclear.
- (d) In claim 1, line 7, it is also unclear why the plural chip select signals are necessary to select one particular memory device.
- (e) In claim 1, line 7, the antecedent basis of *plural* command signals is unclear.

- (f) In claim 1, lines 6-8, how is the command occurrence signal “based on timing of chip select signals” if it is asserted *before* the chip select signals? This is a contradiction that must be resolved.
- (g) In claim 1, lines 7-9, the timing is vague and confusing – the language suggests that the command occurrence signal is asserted prior to the chip select signals to allow a flag signal to complete a data transfer, however, the data transfer cannot be completed prior to the chip select signals, because the memory from/to which to transfer data would not have been selected.
- (h) In claim 2, lines 1-2, “chip select signal” has unclear antecedent basis, i.e., is it the signal in claim 1, line 4, or one of the signals in claim 1, line 7?
- (i) In claim 3, lines 1-2, it is unclear how long “after” the table entry is actually cleared. Explanation is required to permit understanding of the connectivity and function of the invention. Also, does this language of lines 1 and 2 mean that the flag signal is always the last of the three signals to be received by the table entry?

Similar errors exist throughout the remaining claims.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

5. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

6. Claims 1-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by any one of Caceres et al., U.S. 5,802,554, or Baines et al., U.S. 5,678,009, or Marisetty, U.S. 5,666,521.

To the extent that the claims can be understood and interpreted by the examiner in view of the lack of clarity and distinctness described in section 4 of this Office action, claims 1-29 are believed to be taught by any one of the references cited above, since each of these teach a data transfer mechanism from a memory, wherein the memory is a DRAM, including a mechanism to initiate the transfer (i.e., a command or trigger) and a mechanism to complete the transfer, memory selection, and timing.

Until the deficiencies noted in section 4 have been corrected, the claims will be given the broad interpretation described above and each of the cited references is deemed to teach that broad interpretation.

Conclusion

7. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

8. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to James Peikari whose telephone number is (703) 305-3824. The examiner is generally available between 8:00 am and 9:30 pm, EST, Monday through Thursday.

Art Unit: 2186

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Matthew Kim, can be reached at (703) 305-3821.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks

Washington, D.C. 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 746-7239 (Official communications)

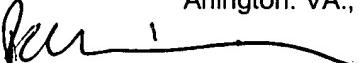
or:

(703) 746-7240 (for Informal or Draft communications)

or:

(703) 746-7238 (for After-Final communications)

Hand-delivered responses should be brought to Crystal Park II, 2121 Crystal Drive, Arlington, VA., Sixth Floor (Receptionist).


B. James Peikari
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2186

3/17/04